

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
18 November 2004 (18.11.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2004/099939 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **G06F 17/60**

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/014386

(22) International Filing Date: 30 April 2004 (30.04.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
10/427,553 30 April 2003 (30.04.2003) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): EBAY  
INC. [US/US]; 2145 Hamilton Avenue, San Jose, CA  
95125 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): NGUYEN, Ha  
[US/US]; 18 Arroya View Circle, Belmont, CA 94002

(US). HERMAN, Jeffrey, A. [US/US]; 2512 Birch Street,  
Palo Alto, CA 94306 (US). GENTRY, Renee [US/US]; 2  
Valley View Avenue, San Jose, CA 95127 (US).

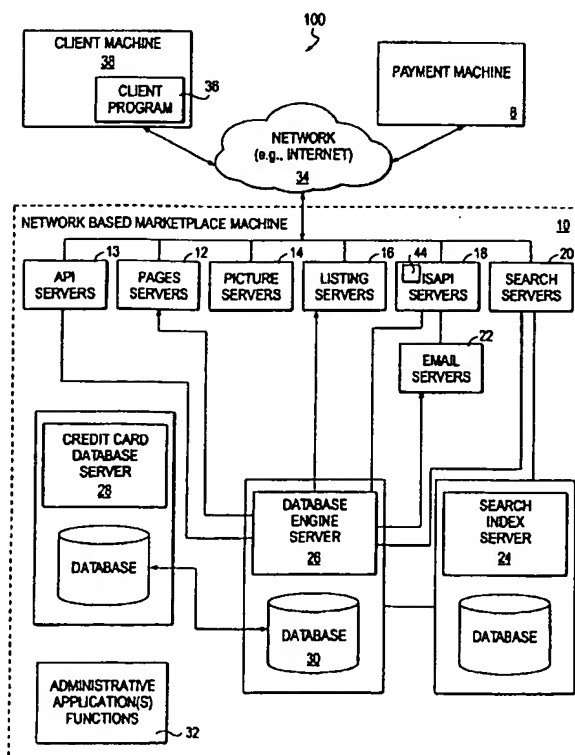
(74) Agents: STEFFEY, Charles, E. et al.; Schwegman, Lund-  
berg, Woessner & Kluth, P.A., P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis,  
MN 55402 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,  
AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUTOMATING PAYMENT FOR A NETWORK-BASED COMMERCE TRANSACTION



(57) Abstract: A method and system to automate  
payment for a network-based commerce transaction  
(100) provide a buyer an option to enable an  
automatic payment service (10), wherein automatic  
payment service automatically provides payment to  
a seller upon a termination event of a network-based  
commerce transaction. Payment information of  
the buyer is provided to a network-based payment  
system (8) upon the occurrence of the termination  
event.



GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
10 March 2005

**Published:**

— with international search report

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/14386

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G60F 17/60

US CL : 705/26, 37

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
U.S. : 705/26, 37

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
East

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0095379 A1 (LIKOUREZOS et al.) 18 July 2002 (18.07.2002), abstract, paragraphs [0017-0032], [0064-0067].	1-41
A	US 2002/0062257 A1 (MINAMISHIN et al.) 23 May 2002 (23.05.2002), abstract, paragraphs [0011-0021].	1-41
A	US 6,260,024 B1 (SHKEDY) 10 July 2001 (10.07.2001), see abstract.	1-41
A	US 4,799,156 A (SHAVIT et al.) 17 January 1989 (17.01.1989), see abstract.	1-41

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 October 2004 (29.10.2004)

Date of mailing of the international search report

06 JAN 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230

Authorized officer

Lynda Jasmin

Telephone No. 308-1113

*Prope for*

# ProQuest

Databases selected: Multiple databases...

## Ask the Maven; [ALL EDITIONS]

Newsday. (Combined editions). Long Island, N.Y.: Dec 6, 2000. pg. C.07

### Abstract (Summary)

"Buy It Now" keeps eBay in the equation in this way: A seller names a price at which he or she would be willing to pull the plug on the auction and sell the item outright, and a buyer can choose to pay that price and end the auction on the spot. Caveats: The seller must select the "Buy It Now" feature before starting an auction, and a buyer can exercise that option only if no other bids have been placed.

### Full Text (222 words)

(Copyright Newsday Inc., 2000)

Q. While noodling around on eBay one evening, I clicked on an auction that had a "Buy It Now" icon. What does that mean?

A. EBay calls its new "Buy It Now" feature "an exciting optional enhancement" for sellers. Another way to describe it is an attempt by the popular auction site not to lose commissions on off-the-books sales. After all, most eBayers know what happens after an auction ends without the item meeting reserve: Often, the seller and buyer e-mail each other privately, negotiate a price and complete the sale- without eBay getting a percentage of the transaction.

"Buy It Now" keeps eBay in the equation in this way: A seller names a price at which he or she would be willing to pull the plug on the auction and sell the item outright, and a buyer can choose to pay that price and end the auction on the spot. Caveats: The seller must select the "Buy It Now" feature before starting an auction, and a buyer can exercise that option only if no other bids have been placed.

Ultimately, using "Buy It Now" will probably cost buyers a little bit more. But the advantage is the assurance that a gotta-have item won't be lost in a flurry of last-minute bids-what the pros call "sniping." There's nothing like instant gratification.

### Indexing (document details)

Section: PLUGGED IN  
Publication title: Newsday. (Combined editions). Long Island, N.Y.: Dec 6, 2000. pg. C.07  
Source type: Newspaper  
ProQuest document ID: 64965231  
Text Word Count: 222  
Document URL: <http://proquest.umi.com/pqdweb?did=64965231&sid=4&Fmt=3&clientId=19649&RQT=309&VName=PQD>

Copyright © 2007 ProQuest LLC. All rights reserved.

